

The Wageworker

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Editor and Publisher.

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE



Entered as second-class matter
April 21, 1904, at the postoffice at Lin-
coln, Neb., under the Act of Congress

126 NORTH FOURTEENTH ST.

Merchants who advertise in the labor papers show that they care for the union man's trade. Patronize those who are willing to help you. Read the advertisements in THE WAGEWORKEE, and if you need of anything in their line, visit their stores and make your purchases, and tell them why you came there. We desire to particularly impress this matter upon the wives and daughters of the union men, as they do most of the purchasing.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Elsewhere in this issue The Wageworker prints that portion of President Roosevelt's message which relates to organized labor and its correlated policies. Every workingman in the country, union or non-union, should read this portion of the message, at least. President Roosevelt has spoken words of wisdom and of counsel which union men should read and heed. He voices a sentiment of friendship for organized labor without going to the extreme of the professional politician seeking to curry favor with labor by undue praise of labor and rabid denunciation of capital. He points out with characteristic clearness that labor unions are not infallible and not above the law, but that they owe a duty to themselves as well as to society at large, the duty of obeying the law and refraining from the use of brute force to accomplish their ends.

In speaking of unions in the federal service President Roosevelt doubtless had in mind the case of Miller, the bookbinder. Sober and thoughtful union men will agree that President Roosevelt's position on that matter was correct, and that the bookbinders in the government printing office made a tactical mistake in pressing their contentions. The printers in the big shop at Washington have steered clear of that rock, and yet they have managed to keep their part of it thoroughly unionized.

But President Roosevelt is especially pleasing to union men and women in his discussion of child labor. He has gone further and said more in opposition to child labor than any other president, and he shows by his remarks that he realizes the danger to the republic in the constant growth of this evil. Child labor is a growing menace to the country—more so than trusts, or imperialism, or militarism. It is of more importance that it should be regulated and practically abolished than that the tariff should be revised. The children of today are the citizens of tomorrow, and if they are forced by industrial conditions to grow up in ignorance all hope of industrial or economic reforms is gone. It is only by educating the future citizens that we may hope to solve the grave problems of tariff and trusts and foreign policy.

As a whole the message is entitled to high rank as a state paper. The president discusses questions never before discussed in a presidential message, and because he has dealt so thoroughly with the question of labor The Wageworker is quite willing to overlook his failure to discuss the question of tariff revision.

GET TOGETHER

It is high time that the labor unions, regardless of craft, get together and establish a "community of interests," as the eminent Napoleons of finance would say. The union man who can not see trouble ahead is in need of a new pair of spectacles, for trouble looms large on the labor horizon. No single craft can hope to win out unaided and alone against the vicious and unscrupulous attacks of the Citizens' Industrial association. As long as the labor unions hold apart the Parryites, well organized and always alert, will play one against the other by arousing jealousies or by some other means. No matter how many regiments an army may have, it isn't worth any more than one regiment unless all of them are combined and working harmoniously along well defined plans.

Just pause and reflect upon the startling fact that not a single labor strike of any importance has been won during the last year. In almost every instance the strikers lost out. And why? Because the opposition is united, while labor unions are divided. It does not matter whether the employer is a manufacturer or a manufacturer, all classes of employers are standing behind him, holding up his hands and using every

influence to aid him, knowing full well that a victory in his case will make victory easier in their own cases. And organized labor should profit by this example. When you join the union of your craft do not make the mistake of thinking that all of your interests as a union man are bound up in your own organization. Standing alone your organization is almighty weak compared with the forces that organized capital can bring against it. But if all labor unions of all crafts would get together for the common defense, still preserving their own craft integrity, the situation would be different.

The place to begin this work of forming a "community of interests" is in the local Central Labor Unions. Every local union should be represented in the central body by active union men who take an interest in the work and are proud of the honors conferred upon them by election to represent their bodies. The man who is a union member simply to get a job is ill-fitted poor material to represent a local in the central body. The man who can see nothing of interest to him in another trade's union is not fit to sit in a central labor body. He is not a good union man who does not interest himself in the welfare of fellow workingmen who belong to other trades-unions.

Be warned in time, union men, and be getting together for the purpose of self help and self defense. Standing singly and alone the trades unions are easily bowled over by the opponents of unionism; standing solidly together, each for one and one for all, not even the gates of hell can prevail against us.

THE SOCIALIST VOTE

The socialist organs are boasting loudly of the greatly increased vote cast for Debs and Hanford at the recent election, and making estimates of their vote in 1908, basing their estimates on the percentage of increase shown by 1904 over 1900. All of this is very amusing to those who understand the situation. It is true that the socialist vote was phenomenally increased in 1904 over 1900, but the increase by no means indicates such a great increase in socialist sentiment as the mere total of votes would indicate. Probably half of the socialist vote was a vote of protest cast by democrats who were disgusted with the "safe and sane" policy of the democratic reorganizers. They voted the socialist ticket merely as a protest against a recrudescence of Clevelandism, and not because they were converts to the doctrine of socialism.

The wise socialist will not pin his faith in socialism's rapid growth to the election returns of 1904. He knows better. He will go right ahead working and talking and agitatin'. If anybody is to profit by the surprisingly large vote for Debs and Hanford it will be those democrats who are urging their party to take advanced ground on questions that are alive.

The city charter of Los Angeles, Cal. contains a provision that when 25 per cent of the voters sign a document expressing dissatisfaction with a city official a new election must be held to select a successor or re-elect the official. A Los Angeles councilman named Davenport engineered a printing deal through the council whereby a "rat" printer secured a valuable printing contract. Los Angeles Typographical Union got after Davenport, secured enough signatures for a recall of the councilman, and in the election that followed Davenport was beaten out of his boots, carrying only one precinct in his ward. That's the way to get after the opponents of union labor.

The success attending the open meeting of the carpenters recently should be an inspiration to other trades unions. As a matter of fact, there ought to be in Lincoln a meeting once a month of all union men without distinction as to craft, for the purpose of becoming better acquainted and talking over the "good of the order."

If you are really in earnest about wishing to help The Wageworker prosper and become a force for good in union affairs, buy your Christmas goods of the merchants who advertise in these columns, and tell them why you do so. A word in this direction will help immensely.

The "free and independent laboring men" in Parry's open shop carriage works at Indianapolis can make about \$5 a week, generally less and never any more, by working to the limit of their skill. That's the kind of "free and independent workingmen" Parry loves so well.

Every father and mother owes it to the children to buy only goods bearing the label, for the label is a guarantee against child labor. Treat the children of your fellows as you would have your own children treated.

While D. M. Parry was denouncing organized labor for opposing the militia the American Federation of Labor was almost unanimously defeating a

resolution denouncing the militia system. Parry should remember that it is better not to know so much than to know so much that isn't so.

Every union man ought to consider his union the best in existence, and then keep on working to make it even better.

The New Orleans United Labor Journal calls him "Damnable Mendicant Parry" and we will let it go at that.

If you can not chew union tobacco, quit the filthy habit.

The first duty of a workingman is to think for himself.

Be sure you are right, then go ahead.

PROPERLY LABELED

THE LOOKOUT MAN.
Now listen, little chill'r, an' I'll tell a story true.
An' better you remember, 'cause it means a lot to you.
An' if you heed th' lesson, then when Chris'mas time is here
You'll git a lot of pleasure, an' a lot o' Chris'mas cheer.
Th' Lookout Man is walkin' when th' stars begin t' peep
To see if little chill'r run air in bed an' fast asleep;
An' all who act up naughty an' don't mind their ma's an' pa's;
Th' Lookout Man is watchin'—an' he'll tell Ol' Santa Claus.

I knowed a little feller wunst who got real bad an' said
He didn't care fr' Santa Claus, an' wouldn't go t' bed;
Said that he didn't have t' mind—O, he was awful bad,
An' didn't care th' leastest mite 'bout makin' folks feel bad.
But when it come t' Chris'mus time he didn't git a thing
'Cause Santa Claus had heard o' him an' not a thing he'd bring.
He knew that bad boy's record—better mind your ma's an' pa's;
Th' Lookout Man is watchin', an' he'll tell Ol' Santa Claus.

I also knowed a little girl who was just awful bad.
She wouldn't learn her lessons an' she allus got so mad
If anybody told her t' be still an' hush her noise—
Well, she was allus wishin' fr' a lot o' Chris'mus toys.
But when 'twas Chris'mus mornin' to her wonder an' surprise
An' empty stockin' hangin' in th' corner met her eyes.
You see, she acted naughty—better mind your ma's an' pa's;
Th' Lookout Man is watchin' an' he'll tell Ol' Santa Claus.

Th' Lookout Man is peepin' thro' th' winders ev'ry night,
An' countin' up th' chill'r who air allus actin' right
An' goin' off t' bed at wunst when told 'tis time t' go.
An' never puttin' rot a bit, or takin' clothes off slow.
He puts 'em in his good book, but th' bad ones in th' bad;
An' when he writes a bad one he looks, O, jus' awful sad.
'Cause he knows they won't git nothin'—better mind your ma's an' pa's;
Th' Lookout Man is watchin' an' he'll tell Ol' Santa Claus.
—W. M. Maupin in The Commoner.

CARDS

Brave men are always afraid to do wrong.
Determination never shakes hands with doubt.

Some men who think they are frank are only rude.
You can not get close to God by drawing apart from your neighbor.

History is very often only tradition accepted because of universal credulity.
Our idea of a mean man is the one who would delight in telling a child the facts about Santa Claus.

We are very apt to dub a man a crank if he refuses to give up his opinions and accept our own.
You can not catch the same rat twice in the same trap, but you can a man. This is no compliment to the man.

The strong man avoids temptation; the weak man flirts with it to prove that he can withstand it—and fails.
Men often achieve fame because they care very little about it and do not allow thoughts of it to take up their time.

The heroes who die for their country are not entitled to any more credit than the hercses who live for their country.
Somehow or other we always feel chilled when a salaried choir stands up to sing the invitation hymn after a good sermon.

When we hear a church member complaining of something the preacher said we are moved to believe that the preacher is doing some good.
Wouldn't you rather associate with a man who is narrow-minded but sincere than to associate with a man so "liberal minded" that he has no convictions at all?

"Every boy must sow his wild oats" is a quotation responsible for a large share of the sin and misery of the world. There is no more reason why a boy should sow wild oats than that a girl should put in a crop of the same grain.

A UNION ORCHESTRA.

One Organized and a Charter Will Be Applied For.

In the very near future the unionists of Lincoln will be privileged to engage union music for all of the social functions managed by the trades-unions. An orchestra has been organized among men already carrying cards, and it is their intention to apply for a charter as a Musical Union.

The orchestra is under the leadership of Professor Reed, and those who have had the pleasure of hearing it are enthusiastic in their praises. Those who want to know more about it should call upon W. E. Moore, Review Press publisher, at Twelfth and P streets.

We Do Not Patronize

The following named business firms are unfriendly to organized labor and have been placed upon the "unfair list." Watch the list carefully from week to week, as important changes may occur:

- Union workmen and working-women and sympathizers with labor have refused to purchase articles produced by the following firms—Labor papers please note changes from month to month and copy:
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS.
Bread.—National Biscuit Company, Chicago, Ill.
Cigars.—Carl Upman of New York city; Krebs, Werthelm & Schiffer of New York city; The Henry George and Tom Moore.
Flour.—Washburn, Crosby, Milling Co., Minneapolis, Minn.; Kelley Milling Co., Kansas City, Mo.
Pipes.—Wm. Demuth & Co., New York.
Tobacco.—American and Continental companies.

CLOTHING.

- Buttons.—Davenport Pearl Button company, Davenport, Ia.; Kremlitz & Co., Newark, N. J.
Clothing.—N. Snellenberg & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; Clothiers' Exchange, Rochester, N. Y.; Strawbrige & Clothier, Philadelphia Pa.; Biauner Bros., New York.
Corsets.—Chicago Corset company.
Hats.—J. B. Stetson company, Philadelphia, Pa.; E. M. Knox company, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Shirts and Collars.—United Shirt and Collar company, Troy, N. Y.; Van Zandt, Jacobs & Co., Troy, N. Y.; Cluett, Peabody & Co., Troy, N. Y.; James R. Kaiser, New York city.
Shoes.—Wellman, Osborne & Co., Lynn, Mass.; Thomas, Taylor & Son, Hudson, Mass.; Hamey Bros., Lynn, Mass.
Suspenders.—Russell Mfg. Co., Middletown, Conn.
Textile.—Merrimac Mfg. Co. (printed goods), Lowell, Mass.
Underwear.—Oneita Knitting Mills, Utica, N. Y.
Woolens.—Hartford Carpet Co., Thompsonville, Conn.; J. Caspary & Son, Jacksonville, Ill.

PRINTING AND PUBLICATIONS.

- Bookbinders.—Geo. M. Hill Co., Chicago, Ill.
Newspapers.—Philadelphia Democrat, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hudson, Kimberley & Co., printers of Kansas City, Mo.; W. B. Conkey Co., publishers, Hammond, Ind.; Gazette, Terra Haute, Ind.; Times, Los Angeles, Cal.

MACHINERY AND BUILDING.

- General Hardware.—Landers, Frary & Clark, Aetna company New Britain, Conn.; Davis Sewing Machine company, Dayton, Ohio; Computing Scale company, Dayton, Ohio; Iver Johnson Arms company, Pitcairg, Mass.; Kelsey Furnace company, Syracuse, N. Y.; Brown & Sharpe Tool company, Providence, R. I.; John Russell Cutlery company, Turaer's Falls, Mass.; Atlas Tack company, Fairhaven, Mass.; Hohmann & Maurer Manufacturing company, Rochester, N. Y.; Henry Disston & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.
Iron and Steel.—Illinois Iron and Bolt company of Carpentersville, Ill.; Carborundum company, Niagara Falls N. Y.; David Maydole Hammer Co., Norwich, N. Y.; Singer Sewing Machine Co., Elizabeth, N. J.
Stoves.—Germer Stove company, Erie, Pa.; "Radiant Home" Stove, Itanges and Hot Air Blast, Erie, Pa. pany, Sag Harbor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- Advertising Novelties.—Novelty Advertising company, Coshocton, Ohio
Telegraphy.—Western Union Telegraph company.

WOOD AND FURNITURE.

- Bags.—Gulf Bag company, New Orleans, La., branch Bemis Bros., St. Louis, Mo.
Brooms and Dusters.—The Lee Broom and Duster company of Davenport, Ia.; M. Goeller's Sons, Circleville, Ohio.
China.—Wick China company, Kiltanning, Pa.
Furniture.—American Billiard Table company, Cincinnati, Ohio; Bumble Chair company, Marietta, Ga.; O. Wisner Piano company, Louisville, N. Y.; Kroll Piano company, Cincinnati, Ohio; N. Drucker & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio; trunks; St. Johns Table company, St. Johns, Mich.
Leather.—Kuilman, Salz & Co., Benicia, Cal.; A. E. Patrick & Co., San Francisco, Cal.; Columbus Buggy and Harness company, Columbus, O.
Rubber.—Kokomo Rubber company, Kokomo, Ind.; B. F. Goodrich Rubber company, Akron, Ohio; Diamond Rubber company, Akron, Ohio.
Pens.—L. E. Waterman & Co., New York city.
Paper Boxes.—E. N. Rowell & Co., Batavia, N. Y.
Paper.—Remington-Martin Paper Co., Norfolk, N. Y.
Typewriters.—Underwood Typewriter company, Hartford, Conn.
Watches.—Keystone Watch Case company of Philadelphia, Pa.; Crescent Courvoisier Wilcox company; Jos. Fahy, Brooklyn Watch Case company, D. M. Parry, Indianapolis, Ind.

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